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Serial No. : 09/476,303
Filed : December 30, 1999
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Attorney's Docket No.: 10559-133001 / P7872

13. An article comprising a computer-readable medium which stores computer-executable instructions for receiving data from a plurality of ports for processing by a plurality of processes including at least one thread, the instructions causing a computer to:
- assign one of the plurality of ports to one of the plurality of processes;
 - determine that additional data is available from the one of the plurality of ports; and
 - await notification by the process that processing has been completed for the additional data prior to re-assigning the one of the plurality of ports to one of the plurality of processes.